

No. 100.]

AN ACT

To regulate the conduct and to maintain the freedom and purity of elections; to prescribe the mode of making, and designate the officers who shall make the returns thereof; to prevent fraud, violence, intimidation, riot, tumult, bribery or corruption at elections or at any registration or revision of registration; to limit the powers and duties of the sheriffs of the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson; to prescribe the powers and duties of the Board and officers of the Metropolitan Police in reference to elections; to prescribe the mode of entering on the rolls of the Senate and House of Representatives the names of members; to empower the Governor to preserve peace and order, to enforce the laws; to limit the powers and duties of the Mayors of the cities of New Orleans and Jefferson with regard to elections; to prohibit District or Parish Judges from issuing certain writs to Commissioners of Election; to make an appropriation for the expenses of the next revision of the registration and of the next election; and to enforce article one hundred and three of the constitution.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened,* That all elections for State, parish and judicial officers, members of the General Assembly, and for members of Congress shall be held on the first Monday in November, and said elections shall be styled the general elections.

Time of holding elections.

They shall be held in the manner and form, and subject to the regulations hereinafter prescribed, and no other.

Sec. 2. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That elections for Representatives in the General Assembly shall be held on the first Monday of November, one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and every two (2) years thereafter; and all elections to supply the place of Senators in the General Assembly, whose terms of service shall have expired, shall be held at the same time as herein provided for the election of Representatives.

Elections for representatives in the General Assembly.

Elections for State senators.

Sec. 3. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That all elections shall be held in each parish at the several election polls or voting places to be established as is hereinafter prescribed.

When held.

Sec. 4. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That all elections shall be completed in one day, and the polls shall be kept open at each poll or voting place, from the hour of six in the morning until six o'clock in the afternoon.

When completed—polls open.

Sec. 5. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That each parish in this State, except the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson, is hereby fixed as an election precinct, and the supervisor of registration in each of said parishes shall direct what number of polls or voting places shall be established in each precinct, fix the places of holding the election, and appoint commissioners of election for each poll or voting place. In the city of New Orleans, each ward shall constitute a precinct, and in the remaining part of the parish of Orleans, the supervisor of registration for the said parish shall fix both the precincts and voting places in each precinct, and in the parish of Jefferson, the supervisor of registration shall fix both the precincts and the voting places in each precinct; in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson the supervisor of registration of each parish shall appoint commissioners of election therefor, as in the other parishes. Any duly registered voter may vote at any poll or voting place within his precinct.

Election precincts.

Voting places.

Sec. 6. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That the elections at each poll or voting place shall be presided over by three commissioners of election, residents of the parish, who shall be able to read and write, to be appointed by the supervisor of registration for the parish,

Commissioners of election.



mechanic any part of the wages due to such laborer, employe, tenant or mechanic, on account of any vote which such laborer, employe, tenant or mechanic has given or purposes to give, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars, one-half of which shall go to the school fund of the parish in which the offense was committed, and by imprisonment in the parish prison for not less than three months.

SEC. 69. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That any person who shall molest, disturb, interfere with, or threaten with violence, any commissioner of election or person in charge of the ballot boxes, while in charge of the same, between the time of the close of the polls and the time that said ballot boxes are delivered to the supervisor of registration, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the penitentiary not less than one year, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Interference
with commis-
sioners, etc.

SEC. 70. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That any person not authorized by this law to receive or count the ballots at an election, who shall, during or after any election, and before the votes have been counted by the supervisors of registration, disturb, displace, conceal, destroy, handle or touch any ballot, after the same has been received from the voter by a commissioner of election, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not less than six months, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Disturbing the
counting of bal-
lots.

SEC. 71. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That any person not authorized by this law to take charge of the ballot boxes at the close of the election who shall take, receive, conceal, displace or [in] any manner handle or disturb any ballot box at any time between the hour of the closing of the polls and the transmission of the ballot box to the supervisor of registration, or during such transmission, or at any time prior to the counting of the votes by the supervisor of registration, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the penitentiary not less than one year, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Interference
with ballot
boxes.

SEC. 72. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That if any person shall by bribery, menace, willful falsehood, or other corrupt means, directly or indirectly attempt to influence any elector of this State in the giving his vote or ballot, or to induce him to withhold the same, or disturb or hinder him in the free exercise of the right of suffrage at any election in this State, he shall, on conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be fined not more than five hundred dollars, and be imprisoned in the parish prison for a term not exceeding six months, and shall also be ineligible to any office in the State for the term of two years.

Interference
with free exer-
cise of right of
suffrage.

SEC. 73. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That it shall be unlawful for any person to carry any gun, pistol, bowie knife or other dangerous weapon, concealed or unconcealed, on any day of election during the hours the polls are open, or on any day of registration or revision of registration, within a distance of one-half mile of any place of registration or revision of registration; any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dol-

Weapons.

lars, and by imprisonment in the parish jail for not less than one month; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to any commissioner or officer of the election or supervisor or assistant supervisor of registration, police officer or other person authorized to preserve the peace on days of registration or election.

Liquors. SEC. 74. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That no person shall give, sell or barter any spirituous or intoxicating liquors to any person on the day of election, and any person found guilty of violating the provisions of this section shall be fined in a sum of not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than three hundred dollars, which shall go to the school fund.

Corruptly voting. SEC. 75. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That whoever, knowing that he is not a qualified elector, shall vote or attempt to vote at any election, shall be fined in a sum not to exceed one hundred dollars, to be recovered by prosecution before any court of competent jurisdiction.

Double vote. SEC. 76. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That whoever shall knowingly give or vote two or more ballots folded as one at any election, shall be fined in a sum not to exceed one hundred dollars, to be recovered by prosecution before any court of competent jurisdiction.

Bribery to influence voters. SEC. 77. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That whoever, by bribery or by a promise to give employment or higher wages to any person, attempts to influence any voter at any election, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars, and by imprisonment in the parish prison for not less than three months.

Obtaining illegal voting. SEC. 78. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That whoever willfully aids or abets any one, not legally qualified, to vote or attempt to vote at any election, shall be fined in a sum of not less than fifty dollars, to be recovered by prosecution before any court of competent jurisdiction.

Disorderly houses. SEC. 79. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That whoever is disorderly at any poll or voting place during an election, shall be fined in a sum not less than twenty dollars, to be recovered by prosecution before any court of competent jurisdiction.

Meetings of citizens. SEC. 80. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That whoever shall molest, interrupt or disturb any meeting of citizens assembled to transact or discuss political matters, shall be fined in a sum not less than fifty dollars, to be recovered by prosecution before any court of competent jurisdiction.

Any sheriff, constable or police officer present at the violation of this section shall forthwith arrest the offender or offenders, and convey him or them, as soon as practicable, before the proper court.

Imprisonment. SEC. 81. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That the court imposing any fine, as directed in sections seventy-four, seventy-five, seventy-six, seventy-seven, seventy-eight, seventy-nine and eighty of this act, shall commit the person so fined to the parish prison until the fine is paid; *Provided,* That said imprisonment shall not exceed six months.

Perjury. SEC. 82. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That in cases where any oath or affirmation shall be administered by any supervisor of registration, assistant supervisor of registration or commissioner of election, in the performance of his duty as prescribed by law, any person swearing or affirming falsely in the premises shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and subjected to the penalties provided by the law for perjury.

Duty of Governor to insure peace. SEC. 83. *Be it further enacted, etc.,* That the Governor shall take all necessary steps to secure a fair, free and peaceable election; and shall, on the days of election, have paramount charge and con-

trol of the peace and order of the State, over all peace and police officers, and shall have the command and direction in chief of all police officers, by whomsoever appointed, and of all sheriffs and constables in their capacity as officers of the peace.

SEC. 84. *Be it further enacted, etc.* That to defray the expenses of the next revision of registration, and of the next general election, there is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary. Expenses

SEC. 85. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That all laws or parts of laws contrary to the provisions of this act, and all laws relating to the same subject matter are hereby repealed, and that this act shall take effect from and after its passage. Repeal.

(Signed)

MORTIMER CARR,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(Signed)

OSCAR J. DUNN,

Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved March 16, 1870.

(Signed)

H. C. WARMOTH,

Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:

GEO. E. BOVEE,

Secretary of State.

[No. 101.]

AN ACT

To define and regulate the cost of the Clerks, Sheriffs, Recorders and Notaries Public throughout the State of Louisiana, and providing forfeitures and penalties for overcharging or failing to perform their duties, and the mode of collecting their fees.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened,* That the clerks of the district courts throughout the State shall be entitled to demand and receive the following fees of office, and no more; and they shall not be entitled to charge any other fees of office than those specially set forth therein, for any services as clerks which they may be required to render: Fees of clerks.

For indorsing, registering and filing petition, for all, ten cents.

For indorsing, registering and filing answer, for all, ten cents.

For issuing citation, with copy of same, with certificate and seal on each, fifty cents, one charge for both.

For issuing attachment, with copy of same, with certificates and seals on both, one dollar, one charge for both.

For issuing *feri facias*, with seal, fifty cents.

For issuing writ of seizure and sale, with seal, one dollar.

For issuing writ of sequestration, with copy of same, with certificates and seals, one dollar, one charge for both.

For issuing writ of *certiorari*, with copy of same, with certificates and seals, one dollar, one charge for both.